

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: PFOR, EEC

SUBJECT: JEAN REY ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

1. IN AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "A POLITICAL EUROPE BEGINS IN 1975," APPPEARING IN THE JANUARY 28 EDITION OF THE BRUSSELS' PAPER LE SOIR, JEAN REY HAS GIVEN AN OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL INTEGRATION OF EUROPE. REY REVIEWS THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS BUT ASSERTS THAT 1975 WILL BE TURNING POINT ON THE ROAD TO EUROPEAN UNION. WHILE CONCEDED THAT OTHERS MAY NOT AGREE WITH HIS ANALYSIS, REY CITES THREE REASONS FOR HIS OPTIMISM:

A) THE DECISION TAKEN IN PARIS TO ELECT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE BY 1978, HE FEELS, FINALLY WILL GIVE THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC A CHANCE FOR MEANINGFUL AND DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION IN DETERMINING THE COURSE OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION.

B) THE AGREEMENT ON MAJORITY VOTING WITHIN THE COUNCIL WHICH, IN ADDITION TO CHANGING THE COUNCIL'S DECISION-MAKING MECHANISM, IS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE TO THE COMMUNITY IN A WIDER SENSE. THIS AGREEMENT, TAKEN WITH THE OTHER RESULTS OF THE PARIS SUMMIT, MEANS A MORE POLITICIZED EUROPE.

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C) FINALLY, REY BASES HIS OPTIMISM ON THE MISSION IMPARTED TO

BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS, NOTING THAT TINDEMANS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A "GOOD EUROPEAN". REY FEELS TINDEMANS WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS OF ALL CONCERNED AND THAT THE RESULT WILL BE A POLITICAL DOCUMENT OF FIRST IMPORTANCE.

2. BY CONSIDERING THESE THREE ELEMENTS SIMULTANEOUSLY, REY EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE THAT A "POLITICAL EUROPE" WILL BEGIN IN 1975. IN A POSTSCRIPT, REY CREDITS COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI WITH HAVING MADE AN IMPORTANT DECLARATION ON THE POLITICAL ROLE OF THE COMMISSION WHICH SHOULD BE WELL RECEIVED BY ALL EUROPEANS (USEC BRUSSELS 267). GREENWALD

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